## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 USIA-15 /036 R

DRAFTED BY CU/PC: JQBLODGETT:EAL APPROVED BY CU/PC: JQBLODGETT CU:MMARCY CU/ARA:JBRIGGS

-----058856 101830Z /45

R 101645Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS STATE 061935

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:SCUL, OTRA

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM

REF: STATE 50293, CARACAS 2065, SAO PAULO 641, BRASILIA 1582, RIO DE JANEIRO 936 (NOTAL)

1. IN VIEW OF THE PREOCCUPATION OF POSTS IN VENEZUELA AND BRAZIL WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT DURING THE WEEK OF MARCH 27, AND SINCE BLODGETT'S SCHEDULE WILL NOT PERMIT TRAVEL TO LATIN AMERICA AT ANY OTHER TIME IN THE NEAR FUTURE, BLODGETT'S VISIT IS POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. AL WICHTRICH OF AMCHAM MEXICO WILL, HOWEVER, PROCEED AS PLANNED TO MEET WITH AMCHAM OFFICIALS IN MONTEVIDEO AND BUENOS AIRES. WICHTRICH TRAVEL WILL BE PERFORMED UNDER HIS CONTRACT WITH THE WASHINGTON-BASED INTERNATIONAL MANAGE-UNCLASSIFIED

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MENT AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE, WHICH IS IN TURN UNDER CONTRACT TO CU FOR CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM. AS WICHTRICH WILL MAKE HIS OWN APPOINTMENTS AND LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS IN COOPERATION WITH THE US CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND AACCLA, NO POST SUPPORT WILL BE NECESSARY.

2. IN THEIR DEALINGS WITH LOCAL AMCHAMS AND AMERICAN MULTINATIONALS ON THE SUBJECT OF CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP

AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN THE HOST COUNTRY, POST OFFICERS SHOULD UNDERSTAND (AND TRY TO MAKE THE AMCHAMS UNDERSTAND) THAT NEITHER THE USG NOR AACCLA IS SEEKING TO IMPOSE ON THEM A WASHINGTON-CONCEIVED SET OF STANDARDS OR GUIDELINES FOR CORPORATE BEHAVIOR. WE URGE ONLY THAT THE MNC'S ALLOT MORE MANAGEMENT ATTENTION IN THE EVOLUTION OF THEIR CORPORATE STRATEGY TO AN ASSESSMENT OF THE POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DYNAMICS OF THE HOST COUNTRY AND OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN WHICH THEY ARE ESTABLISHED, AND THAT THEY SEEK TO HARMONIZE THEIR BUSINESS AND SOCIAL PROGRAMS TO THOSE DYNAMICS. THIS IS CLEARLY IN BOTH THE CORPORATION'S AND USG'S INTEREST AND A GROWING NUMBER OF MULTINATIONAL POLICY MAKERS SEE IT AS SUCH. CU (AND AFTER APRIL 1 ICA) IS WORKING DURING THE BALANCE OF FY 78 TO WIDEN THE CORPORATE ACCEPTANCE OF THESE CONCEPTS AND TO STRENGTHEN GOVERNMENT/BUSINESS COOPERATION IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS. ALTHOUGH WE HOPE TO CONDUCT SOME CONFERENCES ON THIS TOPIC IN SELECTED OVERSEAS REGIONAL CENTERS IN COOPERA-TION WITH THE LOCAL AMCHAMS, WE ARE RELYING ON THE US CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS TO ISSUE IN-HOUSE GUIDELINES AND PROVIDE THE NECESSARY TOP MANAGEMENT STIMULUS, AS SEVERAL DOZEN HAVE ALREADY DONE. UNCLASSIFIED

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3. WE WOULD WELCOME YOUR JUDGMENT AT THIS POINT AS TO WHETHER YOUR AMCHAMS HAVE THE CAPABILITY AND INTEREST TO HOST SUCH CONFERENCES ON A SELF-FINANCING BASIS ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE PARTICIPATION OF BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT PANELISTS FROM THE US WOULD BE AT NO COST TO THE CHAMBERS. THIS QUESTION WILL ALSO BE RAISED BY WICHTRICH WITH THE CHAMBERS DURING HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT. VANCE

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